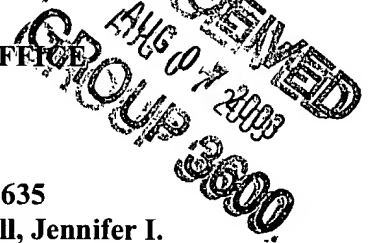


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PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of: **Harold G. Simpson**
Assignee: **HAROLD G. SIMPSON, INC.**
Application No.: **09/978,262** Group Art Unit: **3635**
Filed: **October 15, 2001** Examiner: **Thissell, Jennifer I.**
For: **STANDING SEAM ROOF ASSEMBLY HAVING
INCREASED SIDELAP SHEAR CAPACITY**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION/ RESTRICTION NON-FINAL ACTION
NOT ON THE MERITS (PAPER NO. 4) MAILED JULY 01, 2003**

Sir:

This is in response to a Restriction/Election non-final Office Action for the above referenced application. Claims 1-13 are pending. A restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121 to one of seventeen species determined by the Examiner as patentably distinct species of the claimed invention has been placed by the Examiner on the hereinabove identified application.

The Examiner has identified Figures 5-11, 13, 22-24, 30, 40, 42, 44, 47 and 49 as the patentably distinct species that claims 1-13 of the invention are directed to. The Examiner states "[The] [a]pplicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, no claims are generic."

In response to the Office action of July 1, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 4.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 10, and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11.